

BROOKE TORRES

18-3073

AUTOPSY REPORT

COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA

SIERRA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

CASE # 18-45326

DECEMBER 13, 2018

18-3073

Re: BROOKE TORRES

Page 2

FINDINGS

- I. Intoxication by the combined effects of heroin and methamphetamine; see Axis Forensic Toxicology report
- II. Intrauterine fetal demise, 12-14 weeks estimated gestational age (27.0 grams; foot length 1.1 cm)
- III. Therapeutic intervention

OPINION

In consideration of the known circumstances surrounding this death, the available medical history, and the examination of the remains, the cause of death is ascribed to intoxication by the combined effects of heroin and methamphetamine

The manner of death is accident.

18-3073

Re: BROOKE TORRES

Page 3

DATE OF DEATH: December 11, 2018 **TIME OF DEATH:** 1611 Hours

DATE OF AUTOPSY: December 13, 2018 **TIME OF AUTOPSY:** 0830 Hours

PLACE OF AUTOPSY: Pima County Office of the Medical Examiner
2825 E. District Street
Tucson, Arizona 85714

PERFORMED BY: Kevin M. Lougee, D.O.
Forensic Pathologist

WITNESSED BY: Kristine Clor, Kayla Hare, Jeremy Cox
Pathology Assistants

CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH

The decedent is a 28-year-old female with a history of drug abuse who reportedly became unresponsive while using heroin. She was transported to the hospital where death was pronounced in the emergency department.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs are taken during the autopsy by Kevin M. Lougee, D.O., Forensic Pathologist.

IDENTIFICATION

The body is identified by Sierra Vista Police Department investigators.

CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

The body is received clad in:

1. A pair of gray underwear

Clothing and personal effects accompanying the body at the time of the autopsy include:

1. A pink T-shirt (cut)
2. A black long-sleeve shirt (cut)
3. A pair of blue pants (cut)
4. A white bra
5. Two white metal piercings
6. An orange metal ring with clear stones
7. An orange metal ring with two green stones
8. An orange metal ring with a clear stone
9. An orange metal necklace with a charm
10. A white metal necklace with a charm
11. A white metal bracelet with a heart

Re: BROOKE TORRES

Page 4

12. A folding knife
13. Multiple hair ties

EVIDENCE OF MEDICAL INTERVENTION

1. An endotracheal tube secured in the mouth
2. Electrocardiogram lead pads on the trunk
3. An adhesive pulse oximeter on the right index finger
4. An intraosseous catheter in the anterior right leg
5. An intraosseous catheter in the anterior left leg with taped gauze
6. An adhesive bandage on the left index finger
7. Puncture wounds in both antecubital fossae
8. A hospital identification tag on the left great toe

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body is received in the supine position within a white body bag with an identification tag sealing the zipper. The body is that of a well-developed, well-nourished, adult, light-skinned female who weighs 128 pounds, is 65 inches in length, and appears compatible with the reported age of 28 years. The body is cool. Rigor mortis is fully fixed in the muscles of the jaw and extremities. Fixed pink-purple livor mortis extends over the posterior surfaces of the body, except in areas exposed to pressure.

The head is normocephalic. The scalp hair is dyed red, wavy, and approximately 30 inches in length over the crown. The irides appear hazel. The corneas are translucent. The sclerae and the conjunctivae are clear. No petechial hemorrhages are identified on the sclerae or conjunctivae. The nose is normally formed and the septum is in the midline. The anterior teeth are natural and in good condition. The ears are unremarkable. The neck organs are in the normal midline position and appear unremarkable.

The thorax is well-developed and symmetrical. The breasts are symmetrical and without palpable masses. The abdomen is mildly protuberant and soft. The external genitalia are those of a normal adult female. The anus is free of lesions.

The upper extremities are well-developed and symmetrical without absence of digits. The hands have short, clean, regularly trimmed fingernails. The lower extremities are well-developed and symmetrical without absence of digits. The spine is normally formed and the surface of the back is free of lesions.

IDENTIFYING MARKS, SCARS, AND TATTOOS

1. A piercing in the right side of the lower lip
2. A polychromatic tattoo on the lateral right arm

Re: BROOKE TORRES

Page 5

3. Polychromatic tattoos on upper right back
4. A polychromatic tattoo on the lateral right leg

EVIDENCE OF INJURY

On the center of the chest are a 1/2 x 1/4 inch dried yellow-red abrasion and a 1/8 inch red abrasion. Internally, there are bilateral rib fractures involving right rib 2 laterally and left ribs 2-3 laterally. These findings are likely the result of perimortem resuscitative efforts.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

General Description:

The body is opened with a routine Y-shaped thoracoabdominal incision. The skeletal muscle has a dark red-brown color and a normal smooth texture.

Body Cavities:

No adhesions or abnormal collections of fluid are in the pleural spaces or peritoneal cavity. All body organs are in a normal and anatomic position. The serous surfaces are smooth and glistening.

Cardiovascular System:

The heart weighs 320 grams. The epicardial surfaces are smooth. The coronary arteries arise normally and are distributed in a right dominant pattern with no significant atherosclerosis. The chambers are not dilated. The chambers and valves are proportionate. The valves are normally formed, thin, and pliable and free of vegetations and degenerative changes. The myocardium is red-brown, firm, and free of fibrosis, erythema, pallor, and softening. The atrial and ventricular septa are intact, and the septum and free walls are free of muscular bulges. The left ventricle measures 1.1 cm, the right ventricle 0.3 cm, and the interventricular septum 1.1 cm in thickness as measured 1.0 cm below the respective atrioventricular valve annulus. The aorta and its major branches arise normally and follow the usual course with no significant atherosclerosis. The orifices of the major aortic vascular branches are patent. The vena cava and its major tributaries are patent and return to the heart in the usual distribution and are unremarkable.

Respiratory System:

The left and right lungs weigh 560 and 680 grams, respectively. The upper and lower airways are unobstructed and the mucosal surfaces are smooth and yellow-tan. The pleural surfaces are smooth and glistening with scattered anthracotic pigment deposition. The pulmonary parenchyma is red-purple and free of consolidation and masses. The cut surfaces of the lungs exude moderate amounts of blood and frothy fluid. The pulmonary arteries are unremarkable, and patent with no thromboemboli.

Re: BROOKE TORRES

Page 6

Hepatobiliary System and Pancreas:

The liver weighs 1620 grams. The hepatic capsule is smooth, glistening, and intact covering red-brown parenchyma. The thin-walled gallbladder contains a scant amount of brown watery bile and no stones. The pancreas has a normal size, shape, position, and tan lobulated appearance.

Gastrointestinal System:

The esophagus is lined by gray-white, smooth mucosa. The gastroesophageal junction is unremarkable. The gastric mucosa is intact and arranged in the usual rugal folds. The stomach lumen contains approximately 50 mL of green-brown thick fluid. No pill or pill fragments are identified. The small bowel has a uniform dimension and appears unremarkable. The appendix is present. The colon has a uniform dimension and appears unremarkable without diverticula or externally obvious masses.

Genitourinary System:

The left and right kidneys weigh 180 and 160 grams, respectively. The renal capsules strip with ease and the cortical surfaces are smooth, red-brown, and firm. The cortices are of normal thickness and delineated from the medullary pyramids. The calyces, pelves, and ureters are non-dilated and free of stones. The urinary bladder contains no urine. The bladder mucosa is gray-tan and smooth. The gravid uterus is enlarged with a 27.0 gram fetus within an intact amniotic sac and a superiorly embedded placenta. The fetal measurements are: crown-to-rump 8.4 cm, crown-to-heel 10.4 cm, head circumference 8.0 cm, chest circumference 8.0 cm, abdominal circumference 4.5 cm, and foot length 1.1 cm. The fetal skin is translucent with prominent vasculature. The ears are normally set and the eyes are fused shut. The mouth is open with an intact palate. The nares are not patent. The sex is indeterminate and the anus is patent. The spinal column is intact without evidence of neural tube defect. Each hand has five fingers, and each foot has five toes. The attached umbilical cord has three vessels and no knots. The 25.0 gram placenta is grossly unremarkable. The placental disc measures 9.0 x 7.5 x 1.5 cm while the umbilical cord measures 12.5 cm in length and is appropriately coiled. The fallopian tubes, ovaries, and vagina are otherwise unremarkable.

Reticuloendothelial System:

The spleen weighs 200 grams and has a smooth intact capsule covering red-purple, soft parenchyma. Regional lymph nodes are grossly unremarkable. The thymus is involuted.

Endocrine System:

The thyroid gland is of normal position, size, and texture. The adrenal glands have normal cut surfaces with yellow cortex and brown medulla. The pituitary gland is grossly unremarkable.

Neck:

Examination of the soft tissues of the neck, including strap muscles and large vessels, reveals no

18-3073

Re: BROOKE TORRES

Page 7

abnormalities. The hyoid bone and thyroid cartilage are intact. The laryngeal mucosa is unremarkable. The tongue is pierced, but is otherwise unremarkable.

Head:

Reflection of the scalp reveals no abnormalities. The skull is of normal thickness and without fracture. The brain weighs 1280 grams. The dura mater and falx cerebri are intact. The leptomeninges are thin and transparent. There are no epidural, subdural, or subarachnoid hemorrhages. The cerebral hemispheres are symmetrical with a normal gyral pattern. The structures at the base of the brain, including cranial nerves and blood vessels, are free of abnormalities. Sections through the brain reveal no contusions, hemorrhage, or mass lesions within the cerebral hemispheres, brainstem, or cerebellum. The cerebral ventricles are of normal caliber.

Musculoskeletal System:

The remaining bony framework, supporting musculature, and soft tissues are not unusual. The cervical spinal column is stable on internal palpation.

SPECIMENS

At the time of the autopsy, vitreous fluid, peripheral blood, and a DNA blood card are retained. A purple top of peripheral blood is also retained.

HISTOLOGY SLIDE INDEX

Slide #1	Heart
Slide #2	Right lung, Kidneys
Slide #3	Left lung, Liver

MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION

Cardiovascular System: Sections of the right ventricle, left ventricle, and interventricular septum show no significant histopathologic abnormalities.

Respiratory System: Sections of the right and left lungs show anthracotic pigment deposition, scattered intra-alveolar pigment laden macrophages, and pulmonary vascular congestion.

Kidneys: Sections of the right and left kidneys show no significant histopathologic abnormalities. No polarizable material is seen.

Liver: A section of the liver shows portal chronic inflammation.

TOXICOLOGY

See separate toxicology report.